List of Current Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus for determining and/or monitoring a process variable of a medium, comprising:

a membrane;

an oscillatable unit secured to said membrane;

a sending/receiving unit, which excites said oscillatable unit to oscillate and which receives oscillations of said oscillatable unit;

a control/evaluation unit, which, on the basis of the oscillations of said oscillatable unit, monitors and/or determines the process variable, wherein:

said sending/receiving unit comprises a disk-shaped, piezoelectric element;

said disk-shaped, piezoelectric element has two segments, which are essentially polarized oppositely to one another;

said two segments of said disk-shaped, piezoelectric element are connected in series;

exactly two electrodes of opposite polarity are applied to the side of said disk-shaped, piezoelectric element ~~facing away from said membrane~~; and

said exactly two electrodes of opposite polarity are applied to said ~~disk shaped~~ disk-shaped, piezoelectric element facing away from said membrane.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

said electrodes have essentially the same shape.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

said electrodes have the shape of semicircular segments.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

said electrodes are so structured and arranged that they annularly surround themselves.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

said piezoelectric element is provided on the side facing said membrane at least partially with a conductive coating.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

the side facing said membrane is connected electrically conductively with ground.